

Message Text

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51

ACTION SIG-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 /010 W
----- 102335

P R 271042Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9516

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 1236

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AAUD, AFSP, SF

SUBJ: DATES OF FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN
POSTS

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SEQUENCE OF FOREIGN SERVICE
INSPECTION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN POSTS HAS BEEN CHANGED AND THAT
BLS POSTS NOW SCHEDULED PRIOR TO RSA POSTS. FOR REASONS DETAILED
BELOW, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT INSPECTORS REVERT TO ORIGINAL
PLAN TO INSPECT RSA POSTS FIRST. ONE ADVANTAGE OF REVERSION
TO ORIGINAL PLAN WOULD BE TO GIVE AMBASSADOR BOLEN AN EXTRA MONTH
FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, SETTLING IN AND ORIENTATION
ON THE GROUND PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF INSPECTORS.

2. OF EVEN MORE IMPORTANCE TO US IS THAT WE HAD PLANNED TO
COMMENCE OUR RELOCATION OF EMBASSY FROM PRETORIA TO CAPE TOWN
O/A JULY 6, WITH COMPLETION DATE PLANNED FOR JULY 17. HEAVY
ADMINISTRATIVE EFFORT INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION, PLUS
MOVEMENT OF PRETORIA PERSONNEL AND EFFECTS, MIGHT HINDER AND
DETRACT FROM ORDERLY INSPECTION PROGRAM.

3. FROM MID-JUNE TO MID-JULY PRETORIA AND CAPE TOWN WILL BE
ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN IMPLEMENTING MAJOR FEATURES OF IMPORTANT
ANTI-TERRORISM PROGRAM, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED
PRIOR END OF FISCAL YEAR A KEY PRETORIA PERSONNEL (RSO, GSO,
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CRO, ETC.) WILL NECESSARILY BE HEAVILY ENGAGED IN THIS PROJECT

AND GOOD PART OF THEIR TIME MUST BE SPENT IN CAPE TOWN
DURING THIS PERIOD.

4. IN LIGHT ABOVE FACTORS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS REVERSION TO
ORIGINAL PLAN TO INSPECT RSA POSTS FIRST AND HOPE THIS WOULD
ALSO BE AGREEABLE TO BLS POSTS. HAVE DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSAL
WITH CHARGE BISHOP IN GABORONE WHO PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION
BUT OF COURSE DEFERS TO AMB BOLEN. WOULD APPRECIATE
DECISION ASAP.
HURD

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